(a) whether the University Grants Commission has suggested that around 8500 unaffiliated colleges be brought under the purview of the UGC to improve the standard of college education;

(b) whether it is a fact that only 20 per cent of the colleges in the country are under accreditation for assessment of quality education;

(c) whether there is considerable inter-State variation in the level of higher education and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) how many universities and colleges, the UGC has so far identified to have potential for excellence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has requested all the Universities to send proposals for getting their colleges declared fit by UGC to receive Central assistance. Out of about 18000 colleges in the country only 6212 colleges have so far been recognized by the Commission under the provision of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) established by UGC has so far assessed 2956 colleges.

(c) The Universities and Colleges vary in regard to the availability of physical and academic infrastructure.

(d) The UGC has so far selected 9 universities under its Scheme of Universities with Potential for Excellence to promote quality and excellence, and has identified 12 more universities as Centres with Potential for Excellence in a particular area. 97 colleges have been selected under the Scheme of Colleges with Potential for Excellence to achieve excellence mainly in teaching activities and initiate research culture in such colleges.

Ordinance to recognize B.Ed, colleges

† 415. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have issued an ordinance for including non-recognized B.Ed, colleges of West Bengal in the calegory of recognized colleges;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said colleges have since been declared illegal by the court;

(c) if so, the details thereof,

(d) whether all the non-recognised B.Ed, colleges of the country would be assumed as included in the category of recognized colleges throughout the country due to the said ordinance;

(e) if not, the details in this regard; and

if) the State-wise details of recognized B.Ed, colleges throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MOḤ ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) The National Council for Teacher Education (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance (No. 2 of 2006) has been promulgated on 11.9.2006 to amend the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993. The Ordinance provides for validation of qualifications in teacher education obtained from certain institutions and precribes penalty for running unrecognized institutions.

(b) and (c) Two PILs, namely, Writ Petition No. 21101 of 2005 in the matter of Tulshi Bakshi and another *Vs.* the State of West Bengal & others and Writ Petition No. 11247 of 2006 in the matter of Anjan Bhattacharya *Vs.* State of West Bengal & others were filed in the High Court of Calcutta against the institutions running B.Ed, courses without recognition of NCTE. The Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta ordered that running the teachers training courses and granting affiliation and holding examinations conducted by such colleges without the recognition of the NCTE contravenes the provisions of the NCTE Act. The Court directed the Universities not to allow the students of the respondent institutions to appear for B.Ed Examination.

(d) and (e) Only Institutions covered by section 18B (1) of the Ordinance, namely Institutions offering a course or training in teacher education before the date of promulgation of the Ordinance, which had failed to make an application for recognition to NCTE, but an Examining Body had granted affiliation to the institution and held exmaination for a course or training in teacher education conducted by such institution or such examination was due, before the date of issue of the Ordinance are eligible to apply.

(f) As per information-available. 4154 secondary level Teacher Training Institutions have been recognized The State-wise details is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement-I

Ordinance to recognize B.Ed. Colleges

Southern Regional Committee

SI No	State	No. of recognized B.Ed. Colleges
* 1	Andhra Pradesh	341
2.	Kamataka	367
3.	Kerala	180
4.	Tamil Nadu	322
5.	Pondtcherry	32
6.	Andaman	1
	TOTAL	1243

Western Regional Committee

SI No	State	No. of recognized B.Ed. Colleges
1.	Maharashtra	614
2.	Madhya Pradesh	329
3.	Gujarat	283
4.	Chhattisgarh	55
5	Goa	4
6.	Daman & Diu	2
	TOTAL	1287

Eastern Regional Committee

SI No.	State	No. of recognized B.Ed. Colleges
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	2
2.	Assam	46
3.	Bihar	13
4.	Jharkhand	35
5.	Manipur	6

SI. No.	State	No. of recognized B.Ed. Colleges
6.	Meghalaya	4
7.	Mizoram	2
8.	Nagaiand	3
9.	Orissa	15
10.	Sikkim	2
11.	Tripura	4
12.	West Bengal	40
	TOTAL	172

Northern Regional Committee

SI. No.	State	No. of recognized B.Ed. Colleges
1.	Himachal Pradesh	52
2.	Delhi	37
3.	Uttar Pradesh	728
4.	Uttaranchal	49
5.	Rajasthan	291
6.	Punjab	149
7.	Haryana	143
8.	Chandigarh	3
	TOTAL	1452

Increase of students under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

† 416. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of students in the secondary schools in 2007-08 would increase because of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) if so, the likely percentage of such increase;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.